

valves, as the garters hold back this hydrostatic pressure.

High ligation of the saphenous is not a cure-all; in fact, it is only rarely to be advocated. Recent enthusiasm for this operation is not based on historical studies: years ago it was shown that high ligation is permanently successful in only 28 per cent of cases, and is not as likely to result in cure as injection.<sup>2</sup> This operation of high ligation is known as the Trendelenburg operation for varicose veins. The Trendelenburg test is the test to show whether or not the Trendelenburg operation will succeed. It is only if the Trendelenburg test shows that the valves between the superficial veins and the deep veins in the calf are competent, that the operation will succeed.<sup>3</sup>

A history of phlebitis does not mean that the deep veins continue to be obliterated. I have yet to see a case where I was convinced that the deep femoral vein remained obliterated over a long period of time. Permanent edema is more likely to be due to perivascular lymphangitis. The greatest danger lies in injection of cases of thromboangitis obliterans or in cases of arteriosclerosis obliterans.

The injection of varicose veins is not likely to cause pulmonary embolism. In my own experience, covering over 25,000 injections, I have seen only two cases of pulmonary embolism. Both of these recovered after a short illness. Both also occurred years ago at the time of the use of weakly sclerosing solutions, and I have had no cases occurring with modern solutions.

2007 Wilshire Boulevard.

N. J. KILBOURNE,  
Los Angeles.

#### THE LIBRARY MEMORIAL FUND AND THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATES OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

With the taking over of the Barlow Medical Library by the Los Angeles County Medical Association, and its removal to new quarters, the immediate and most pressing of its needs—more space—was fulfilled. But a library needs more than space. It needs physical equipment, librarians, current periodicals and current texts. The responsibility for providing these was assumed, of course, by the County Society. For the present, then, the material needs of the library are being met.

As for the future, and for what might be called the spiritual needs of the library, no provision had been made. A library must be more than a convenient and accessible storage place for books. It must be a living, growing servant of its community. It must have a spiritual, as well as a physical identity. It must have character, and it must impress this character on the community which it serves. To create these attributes, a group, the Library Associates of the Los Angeles County Medical Association, was organized, and

to that end the Associates are publishing, in the Los Angeles County Society Bulletin, a series of descriptions of the library's most interesting books, while planning to hold exhibitions of medical, historical, and bibliographic material. Definite efforts, also, are being made to make the study of the history of medicine an important part of its activities. This is intended not only to give vent to the interests of those historically inclined, but also to emphasize the fact that books of historical interest are not merely embellishments of a library's equipment, but a most important factor in creating the character that was spoken of before.

Since but little provision was made for the purchase of materials and books of purely historical interest, the Library Associates have created a Library Memorial Fund, and members of the County Society are urged to send to this fund what moneys perhaps would otherwise be spent on flowers for a deceased member. Acknowledgment of the gift is then sent to the relatives. Thus, instead of ephemeral flowers, a permanent memorial is established. Bookplates identifying the purchases made from the Memorial Fund insure the permanency of the memorial.

To the Memorial Fund will also be added such other gifts and bequests of money, books, instruments and the like as may be the Fund's good fortune to receive. The Library Associates hope to make the library "not a luxury, but a necessity of life."

#### FORM FOR CONTRIBUTION

To the Library Memorial Fund  
Los Angeles County Medical Association  
1925 Wilshire Boulevard

..... \$.....  
In Memory of .....  
Please send a card of acknowledgment to  
.....

#### FORM FOR BEQUEST

I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to the Los Angeles County Medical Association, a nonprofit corporation, the following described property: [books, money, etc.] to be administered as part of that corporation's Library Memorial Fund, and to be known as the [here insert name desired] Memorial.

672 South Westlake Avenue.

HYMAN MILLER,  
Los Angeles.

In all of the 160 years of American history, only 244,000 American soldiers have been killed on the field of battle or died from wounds obtained while fighting in our wars. In the past twenty-five years more than 375,000 American mothers have died from causes associated with childbirth. During this same twentieth century period, the American records of the highest maternal death rate in the world save Scotland have remained constant. By this women can be made to understand that prenatal care is urgent in the second and third month instead of the seventh, where records prove it usually begins. Then a tremendous advance has been made toward reducing maternal mortality.—*The Commentator*.

<sup>2</sup> Berntsen, A.: *Nordiskt Med. Arkiv.*, 62:61, 1927.

<sup>3</sup> Trendelenburg: *Beitr. z. Klin. Chir.*, 7:195, 1890.